APPENDIX

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CONCLUDING REPORTS OF THE 65th ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION
Toronto, Canada, June 9-13, 1974

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

Following executive board and committee meetings and an open house on June 10, Division Chairman Herbert Holzbauer, Director, Defense Intelligence Agency Libraries, Washington, D.C., opened the business session on June 11 with a record 125 members in attendance. Mr. Holzbauer announced the retirement of Gabrielle Wohlauer, Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester, N.Y., as editor of the *Sci-Tech News*, and of Glenn R. Maynard as business manager, expressing appreciation for their past efforts. He then introduced the incoming editor, Rod Casper, CalTech Library, Pasadena, Calif., the incoming business manager, H. William Jones, Northrop Corp. Library, and Louanne Kalvinskas, Avery Products Corp. Library, who will be in charge of subscriptions for *Sci-Tech News*.

Catherine Bahn of the Library of Congress, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on Future Planning, presented the committee's annual report and asked Kay Rodgers, also of LC's Science and Technology Division, to describe the plan for listing the availability and prices of publications from smaller science and technology associations. Paula Strain, Mitre Corp. Library, McLean, Va., gave an account of her proposal to obtain fiscal and budget information from science and technology libraries. Eugene Jackson, University of Texas at Austin, suggested, in connection with the project to compose a bibliographical essay identifying published and unpublished collections of portraits of scientists and engineers, that biographies also be noted when they are included with the portraits. Robert Krupp, New York Public Library, discussed the effort to establish liaison with related national and international associations.

Ellis Mount, Columbia University, read, and the members approved, the executive board proposal to give financial aid to a student member and a regular SLA member for attendance at their first SLA convention.

Mr. Krupp's proposal for a system of annual awards was accepted and a Division awards committee with Mr. Krupp as chairman was reconstituted. The Division also voted to give $1,000 each to the SLA Scholarship Fund and the Fund for Research Projects.

New officers installed were Ellis Mount, Chairman; Rocco Crachi, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, Chairman-elect; Julie Richteler, University of Texas at Austin, Treasurer; Andre C. Whisenton, Naval Sea Systems Command Library, Washington, D.C., Membership Chairman; and Betty Boyd Braciner, MIT Lincoln Laboratory Library, Lexington, Mass., Head of the nominating committee. Elizabeth N. Walkey continues as Secretary.

The meeting adjourned following a vote of appreciation to Mr. Holzbauer for his services to the Division.

Members then joined the Aerospace, Documentation, and Pharmaceutical divisions, and the American Society for Information Science's Special Interest Group on Selective Dissemination of Information (ASIS SIG/SDI) for a combined meeting on alternate means of access to data bases for SDI and on-line services.

Jack E. Brown, National Science Library in Ottawa, spoke on Canada's National SDI System, which provides a national SDI service (CAN/SDI) to 5,000 end users, utilizes 14 commercially available data bases, works through four major information centers, and is assisted by 450 search editors located throughout Canada. The CAN/SDI program now permits on-line interactive retrospective searching via remote terminals, using 15 regional centers.

Martha E. Williams, University of Illinois at Urbana, described the not-for-profit service bureau. She said that data bases can be accessed either by processing them in-house or by purchasing services outside. She offered a "shopping list" of system features and criteria for judging candidate services.

Carlos A. Cuadra, System Development Corp., Santa Monica, Calif., discussed commercial data base services which are similar to yet differ from their nonprofit counterparts. They emphasize on-line, as opposed to SDI, services although financial pressures dictate eventual movement into the SDI field. Since they operate without subsidies in a competitive business where volume is the key to profitability, promotion is aggressive and responsiveness to user needs is high.

Melvin Weinstock, Institute for Scientific Informa-

tion, Philadelphia, Pa., said that data base producers have several options in deciding upon journal coverage in relation to effectiveness versus costs. On-line systems pose challenges to the information community and to data base producers to contain coverage within economic limits.

Robert A. Kennedy, Bell Telephone Laboratories, Murray Hill, N.J., reviewed the factors that influence the selection of data bases or services for on-line operation, SDI services, and retrospective searches, such as coverage of literature, ease of use, cost, reliability and viability of the producer, responsiveness to user needs, user options, redundancy with other services or data bases, and location of literature not on hand locally.

Over 350 people attended these discussion, moderated by Virginia T. Raynes, Douglas Corp., St. Louis, Mo. [*Catherine I. Bahn*]

PHYSICS–ASTRONOMY–MATHEMATICS PROVISIONAL DIVISION

In the Roundtable Discussion, representatives of leading commercial scientific publishers, including Springer-Verlag, American Elsevier, D. Reidel, and Gordon and Breach, discussed their publishing programs and responded to some very pointed questions posed by acquisition librarians.

Among reasons for the high prices of their books, they said, were the low sales potential, short life, and limited print runs of highly specialized textbooks. Publishers willing to publish such books earn a reputation for high prices. Such a reputation may force them to discontinue publishing books for other than their market potential. Photocopying and the distribution of reprints by authors only aggravate the problem.

Acquisition librarians criticized the publishers for the proliferation of too-specialized journals, but the publishers answered that need, rather than profit, is the prime motive for such journals, the natural outgrowth of new research. Other complaints included publishers not meeting publication schedules, not returning payments accepted for journals or books that were never delivered, deceptive advance publication notices, and unclear subscription policies.

The indexing Mathematics session speaker was Prof. Kenneth O. May of the University of Toronto Department of Mathematics, who is currently indexing the *American Mathematical Monthly* and recently compiled the *Bibliography and Research Manual of the History of Mathematics.* He discussed various problems of research in mathematical literature and suggested some innovative solutions. Major needs are better information retrieval in mathematics, and better tools–a good mathematics dictionary and encyclopedia and especially a good index to the mathematical literature. Mr. May described his own approach to indexing–in the natural language mathematicians use–and said he would be glad to hear from those interested in working on problems in indexing mathematics. [*Jane Collins*]

GENERAL NETWORKING CONCEPTS MEETING

The meeting was chaired by Susan Klement, President-elect of the Toronto Chapter of Information Resources, on Tuesday, June 11. Among the speakers was Murray Turoff of the Newark College of Engineering Department of Computer Sciences, discussing "The Potential Role of the Library as a Real-Time Information Exchange Among People." Mr. Turoff described the library of the future as offering such diverse services as hardware for research (mini-computers, calculators) and computerized cassette conferencing facilities through which users could exchange ideas anonymously. Another participant at this meeting was Miriam A. Drake, Instructional Media Research Unit of Purdue University Libraries and Audiovisual Center, who spoke on "The Challenge of Interdisciplinary Studies." At Purdue, courses are now being given in such areas as the social dimensions of engineering. Faculty members in engineering, the social sciences, and the humanities sometimes experience communication problems because of differences in language and conceptualization. Librarians have an effective coordinating role here, bridging the gaps caused by professional chauvinism.

[*Rhoda Newman*]